Federation held demonstrations in March, 1992 as reported in the Times of India dated 31st March, 1992 ;

(b) if so, the details of their demands ;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

CBI enquiry in die activities of the Chief Personnel Manager ECL

1175. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI conducted a raid in the 3rd week of December, 1991 under the command of Shri C. R. Majumdar, D.S.P., CBI (Calcutta) and another Officer at the residence of the C.P.M. E.C.L. ;

(b) whether a big haul of valuables was unearthed ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) whether Government have taken any action against the Chief Personnel Manager, ECL?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) to (d) No CBI raid was conducted in the third week of December, 1991 at the residence of the Chief Personnel Manager of Eastern Coalfields Limited. However CBI had conducted a raid at the residence of the Dy. Chief Personnel Manager/Chief of Administration, ECL on 10-12-1991 in connection with a case involving two employees of ECL who were staying in the company quarter occupied by the officer.

Closure of Coal Mines

1176. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact th;it a number of coal mines in the country have been closed; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the number of such mines (company-wise) and the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) The closed coal mines include (i) the mines which were taken over as closed at the time of nationalisation and have continued to remain closed (ii) the mines which were taken over as closed at the time of nationalisation, were opened thereafter but have since been closed (iii) the mines which were taken over as working mines but have since been closed and (iv) the new mines which were opened after nationalisation but were closed subsequently.

The reasons for these mines being closed or inactive are as follows : —

1. Those could not be merged/regrouped or amalgamated to form a reconstituted mine.
2. Lack of infrastructural facilities on account of geographical location.
3. Isolated patch deposit with very small reserves and seasonal workability.
4. Insufficient geological data available for such mines.
5. Non-availability of reliable working plans in respect of old Workings.
6. Not viable techno-economically.
7. Exhaustion of extractable reserves.
8. Highly uneconomic working without any potential for future viability.
9. Adverse geo-mining conditions.
10. Safety considerations.

The details of company-wise closed mines are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Occupational Accidents in ECL

1177. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that number